BBC 4 Listings for 18 – 24 September 2021

SATURDAY 18 SEPTEMBER 2021

SAT 19:00 Vienna: Empire, Dynasty and Dream (p046dxfw)

Episode 1

Vienna was the capital of the Habsburg dynasty and home to the Holy Roman Emperors. From here, they dominated middle Europe for nearly 1,000 years. In this series, historian Simon Sebag Montefiore describes how the Habsburgs transformed Vienna into a multinational city of music, culture and ideas. Napoleon, Hitler, Mozart, Strauss, Freud, Stalin and Klimt all played their part.

In this first episode, we follow the Habsburgs' rise to power and discover how Vienna marked Europe's front line in the struggle to defend both Christendom from the Ottomans and the Catholic Church from the Protestant revolutionaries that plotted to destroy it.

SAT 20:00 Brazil with Michael Palin (b01nqm81) Into Amazonia

Michael Palin travels from Brazil's northern border with Venezuela along the Rivers Branco, Negro, Amazon, Tapajos and Xingu, through the very heart of the Amazonia, before

ending up at the capital Brasilia. He visits indigenous tribes like the Yanomami, and talks to their shaman and chief spokesperson Davi about the threats to their traditional way of

On the Rio Negro he encounters Elias, one of the last seringueiros, or rubber tappers, and watches the Amazon Philharmonic Orchestra rehearse in the magnificent Manaus Opera House. Travelling by river boat he heads up the Tapajos river to Fordlandia, to seek out what remains of Henry Ford's bold but ultimately unsuccessful attempt to build a rubber plantation the size of Wales in the middle of the rainforest.

In Belem at the mouth of the Amazon, he is dazzled by the exotic Amazonian foods that chef Thiago uses in his kitchen, and learns from music producer Priscilla why Amazonian women like her and her protege singer Gaby Amarantos are such powerful forces.

Travelling ever southwards to the upper reaches of the Xingu river, he is welcomed to the Wauja tribe, one of the most colourful of all the Brazilian indigenous peoples. Anthroplogist in-residence Emi Ireland helps explain their rich and complex rituals as well as why the Wauja women would like to marry Michael. The threats to their land and way of life from dam building, deemed necessary for the increasing exploitation of Brazil's abundant natural resources, is discussed with Wauja

In Brasilia, he meets up with rock star and political activist Dinho Ouro Preto who thinks Brazil, despite all its social and environmental problems, is on the brink of fulfilling its destiny as a superpower.

SAT 21:00 The Hunt for a Killer (p09lx0mn)

Episode 5

Monica follows up a lead given to her at a party, visiting the coworkers of a man they describe as a pervert. Berg warns Pelle that he risks being fired for his unauthorised approach to the forensic science service in Birmingham to provide a DNA profile from some overlooked samples found on Helen

In Swedish with English subtitles.

SAT 21:45 The Hunt for a Killer (p09lx0mg)

Series 1

Episode 6

Given a deadline to clear up the Helen Nilsson case by the new boss at Kristianstad. Pelle and his team are under pressure to reinterview witnesses and discover overlooked clues. Their main suspect, Ulf Olsson, refuses to confess despite Monica's patient attempts to make him crack.

In Swedish with English subtitles.

SAT 22:30 Storyville (m000k492) College Behind Bars

A two-part Storyville documentary that tells the inspiring story of a group of men and women in the USA struggling to earn college degrees while in prison for serious crimes.

The Bard Prison Initiative is one of the most rigorous and effective prison education programmes in the United States Shot over four years in maximum and medium security prison in New York State, the films tackles a pressing issue - the failure to provide meaningful rehabilitation for over two million Americans living behind bars

Through the stories of the students and their families, we discover many dropped out of high school before being incarcerated and never imagined they would go to college. During four years of study, however, they become accomplished scholars, beat the Harvard debating team, reckon with their pasts and discover how truly transformative education

Incarcerated men and women at Eastern and Taconic Correctional facilities are admitted to the Bard Prison Initiative. When classes begin, they discover they must meet the same high standards as students on Bard College main campus. The debate team prepares to face the University of Vermont.

SAT 23:20 Classic Albums (m0009dk9)

Nirvana: Nevermind

In 1991 Nirvana's Nevermind, with the songs of Kurt Cobain, changed the music business without compromise, record company hype or media overkill. The album replaced Michael Jackson at the top of the American charts and so began a rapid rise to international superstardom for the band.

This is the story of how Nirvana came to record Nevermind and the effect the record had on the music world and on the band themselves. It offers an insight into the songwriting genius of Kurt Cobain and reveals why Nevermind remains a milestone in rock history.

SAT 00:10 New York Rock at the BBC (b007mwcf)

From the streets of New York City to the studios of the BBC comes the cream of the New York rock scene, including classic archive performances from The Ramones, New York Dolls, Television, Blondie, Lou Reed and many more.

SAT 01:10 Brazil with Michael Palin (b01nqm81) [Repeat of broadcast at 20:00 today]

SAT 02:10 Vienna: Empire, Dynasty and Dream (p046dxfw)

[Repeat of broadcast at 19:00 today]

SUNDAY 19 SEPTEMBER 2021

SUN 19:00 Concerto at the BBC Proms (b01k031g) Mendelssohn Violin

Another chance to hear a live performance from the BBC Proms at the Royal Albert Hall of one of the most popular and frequently performed violin concertos of all time. Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto in E minor, recorded at the first night of the BBC Proms in 2005. Exciting and versatile violin soloist Janine Jansen performs with the BBC Symphony Orchestra under the baton of conductor, Sir Roger Norrington

SUN 19:30 Bernard Haitink, The Enigmatic Maestro (m000n1jp)

After conducting for 65 years, Bernard Haitink retired in 2019 at the age of 90. The musicians he worked with are puzzled by the secrets of his technique. He himself says his job is to embrace the orchestra without suffocating them.

SUN 21:00 Julius Caesar Revealed (b09s0mxi)

Julius Caesar is the most famous Roman of them all: brutal conqueror, dictator and victim of a gruesome assassination on the Ides of March 44 BC, 2,000 years on, he still shapes the world. He has given us some political slogans we still use today (Crossing the Rubicon), his name lives on in the month of July, and there is nothing new about Vladmir Putin's carefully cultivated military image, and no real novelty in Donald Trump's tweets and slogans.

Mary Beard is on a mission to uncover the real Caesar, and to challenge public perception. She seeks the answers to some big questions. How did he become a one-man ruler of Rome? How did he use spin and PR on his way to the top? Why was he killed? And she asks some equally intriguing little questions. How did he conceal his bald patch? Did he really die, as William Shakespeare put it, with the words Et tu, Brute on his lips? Above all, Mary explores his surprising legacy right up to the present day. Like it or not, Caesar is still present in our everyday lives, our language, and our politics. Many dictators since, not to mention some other less autocratic leaders, have learned the tricks of their trade from Julius Caesar.

SUN 22:00 The Sky at Night (m000zwp0)

Ouestion Time

A special 'Question Time' edition of the programme, recorded at the Civic Theatre, Chelmsford, as part of the British Science Association's annual science festival

Planetary scientist Dr Carly Howett and cosmologist Professor Hiranya Peiris join Chris Lintott, Maggie Aderin-Pocock and Pete Lawrence to answer questions from viewers covering all things astronomical – from the size of the universe to the sible nature of alien life

Chaired by Dallas Campbell.

SUN 23:00 The Sky at Night (m0006vqt)

The Moon, the Mission and the BBC

To celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Apollo mission to put a man on the moon, The Sky at Night looks back through the archives to tell the story of how the BBC reported the moonshot, with some very special guests. Scientist John Zarneki discusses the huge scientific and engineering challenge. The first British astronaut, Helen Sharman, reveals just how accurate the predictions and preparations for life in space were And writer and broadcaster James Burke - who reported the whole amazing story at the time - explains why Nasa loved the BBC and how he gained access to the command module for an episode of Tomorrow's World.

SUN 00:00 Storyville (m000k499) College Behind Bars

A two-part Storyville documentary that tells the inspiring story of a group of men and women in the USA struggling to earn college degrees while in prison for serious crimes

The Bard Prison Initiative is one of the most rigorous and effective prison education programmes in the United States. Shot over four years in maximum and medium security prisons in New York State, the films tackles a pressing issue - the failure to provide meaningful rehabilitation for over two million Americans living behind bars.

Through the stories of the students and their families, we discover many dropped out of high school before being incarcerated and never imagined they would go to college. During four years of study, however, they become accomplished scholars, beat the Harvard debating team, reckon with their pasts and discover how truly transformative education

The debate team faces West Point and Harvard. Seniors complete their 100-paged thesis projects. Giovannie is sent to the Special Housing Unit and might not finish his project. Students at Taconic and Eastern receive their degrees at

SUN 00:50 Bernard Haitink, The Enigmatic Maestro (m000n1jp)

[Repeat of broadcast at 19:30 today]

SUN 02:20 Julius Caesar Revealed (b09s0mxi)

[Repeat of broadcast at 21:00 today]

MONDAY 20 SEPTEMBER 2021

MON 19:00 Great British Railway Journeys (b09m8hnk) Series 9

Newport to Clevedon/Yatton/Bristol Channel

Steered by his early 20th-century Bradshaw's guide, Michael discovers the birthplace of British aviation in Bristol and prepares an Airbus 380 for a smooth landing at Filton. In Newport, he uncovers the heroism of a young boy who rescued a workman from a dock disaster in which many died. Michael admires the Albert Medal awarded to the brave Tom Lewis now in the proud possession of his great grandson, the 385th Mayor of Newport.

Michael discovers the home of a forward-thinking Edwardian family at Eagle House in Batheaston. Frieda Roberts remembers the suffragettes who campaigned for votes for women in the early 20th century and found refuge at the house after their release from prison.

And in the Somerset town of Clevedon, Michael goes to the movies in a perfectly preserved cinema dating from 1912 and hears about the first film to be shown there, in aid of survivors of the Titanic disaster.

Supported by bbc.co.uk/programmes/

BBC 4 Listings for 18 – 24 September 2021

MON 19:30 The Joy of Painting (m000zwpk)

Enchanted Falls Oval

Create an extraordinary waterfall with Bob Ross and capture its intriguing magic in a painting that you will be proud to display anywhere.

MON 20:00 Secrets of the Museum (m000fjg5)

Episode 3

Inside every museum is a hidden world, and now, cameras have been allowed behind the scenes at the world-famous Victoria and Albert Museum in London.

Only a small part of the two million wonders in the collection are on display to the public. But in this new series we go behind closed doors to explore all the treasures of art, design and performance the museum has to offer.

We follow experts and conservators at work in this treasure trove of the nation's favourite objects, as they breathe new life into fragile marvels, uncover hidden stories, and battle to keep the past alive.

This week, we join curators Steph and Jenny as they plan a major new exhibition celebrating the work of innovative British fashion designer Mary Quant. They want to illustrate how the designer shook up women's fashion in the 1960s with clothing that liberated women from decades of corsetry. Although the museum has a big archive of Quant dresses already, Steph has a critical gap in the collection. After an appeal to the public, a woman from Yorkshire comes forward with a dress that could be perfect to show how off exactly how Quant hiked hemlines higher than ever before.

Jenny Fenwick was 17 years old when she bought her mustardcoloured Mary Quant mini-dress from the Sheffield branch of Topshop. But after years of hard partying, the dress will need all the love and skill that conservator Frances can muster in order to make it exhibition-ready.

When the Quant exhibition opens, Jenny arrives to see her dress in pride of place - and is moved to think that these dresses meant freedom for her, and a whole generation of women. Meanwhile, curator Julius is delving deep into the stores to uncover some of the very first objects ever given to the museum. He tracks down a hand-painted writing case, made in Kashmir in the 1850s, that once belonged to Queen Victoria, who donated it to the museum. We'll see inside the beautiful handmade piece, including the original knife and scissors the Queen used to cut and sharpen her quill pens. The writing case will join a spectacular serving dish, or salver, made from fine silver and gold filigree, in a special display to mark 200 years since Victoria and Albert were born.

The museum also receives donations today, just as it did when it first started. A woman from west London, Shalaleh, has offered the V&A her treasured family collection of rare saris, dating back to the 1930s. Shalaleh's grandmother was part of the Indian aristocracy in the days of the Raj, and travelled to Paris in order to buy fabrics from the top fashion houses of the day

These beautiful chiffons and silks are a welcome addition to curator Divia's collection. With no daughters to give the saris to, Shalaleh knows her grandmother would be delighted to see the saris join the museum for the public to enjoy.

But modern-day objects are just as important as historic items to the museum's collection. We'll see Rapid Response curator Corinna hit the streets as she gather the most significant designs of today - that could become the treasures of tomorrow. The team have are hoping to acquire the flags and logo of climate change activists Extinction Rebellion. When they join the collection, these contemporary pieces will sit alongside other emblems of social change now - such as an umbrella from the Hong Kong protest movement, and a burqini.

We'll also follow conservators as they prepare for the return of a huge Victorian masterpiece to the galleries. 'The Pilgrim Outside the Garden of Idleness', by renowned Pre-Raphaelite artist Edward Burne-Jones, is from 1898. But the heavy and extremely valuable artwork is in its delicate original frame and calls for careful conservation to preserve the fragile gilt construction. For 100 years the museum has kept the painting safe, but it's now down to tech services Allen and a team specialists to manhandle the artwork up several flights of stairs to its original place on the gallery wall.

MON 21:00 Inside America's Treasure House: The Met (m000zwpm)

Series 1

Episode 2

The Met's 150th anniversary year has been derailed by Covid-19. Then in May 2020, the murder of George Floyd, only the latest in a litany of killings of African Americans by white police officers, forces America to confront, once again, inequalities in social justice.

At the museum, the executive are examining their historical

record on inclusion, exclusion and diversity, in art and staffing, and find it wanting. In an open letter, questions have been raised and accusations levelled about systemic racism at all New York arts institutions. CEO Dan Weiss has been wrong-footed by anger from within the museum about a postcolonial state of mind expressed in some of the Met's most treasured objects.

In the American Wing, Weiss ponders a 21st-century question: some of the art reflects 19th-century tastes and attitudes to other cultures, in particular the First Nations, who were moved off their homelands even as the museum was being built. It's not just indigenous peoples; most citizens of New York are not Caucasian - where are their stories? How do black and brown visitors feel about their representation in an art house that says it wants to be all things to all people?

The programme moves on with a chronicle of a visit to the Met by Connecticut resident and mum of two Tracy-Ann Samuel. The African American community worker grew up in the city. For her and husband Cleon the Met was more than a museum; it was a portal to other cultures, ideas and, of course, beauty. She wants her girls, Kristen, ten, and Kelsie, four, to see positive depictions of people who look like them, and to ask questions about art that makes statements and assumptions about gender, power and race.

The theme of art and politics as indivisible begins. The Samuel family analyses the messaging in one of the Met's keystone treasures, Emanuel Leutze's Washington Crossing the Delaware It's a celebrated depiction of heroism, idealising a pivotal moment in the struggle to create the republic, which forms part of the national narrative displayed in the American Wing. Kristen Samuel is a dispassionate viewer, but finds little to

In contrast, Wooden Boat People, two works by Cree artist Kent Monkman, speak directly to the family. Provocatively positioned in the Great Hall, the paintings were commissioned by the Met, who invited Monkman to look for inspiration in the collections. Leutze's Washington portrait was his choice. The works feature Monkman's gender-fluid alter ego, Miss Chief Testickle.

We see the Canadian artist in his rural studio near Toronto to hear of his relationship with the Met, colonial attitudes and the activities of the slave-owning, native-baiting Washington.

At the museum, there's more political comment, long hidden but now revealed by x-ray analysis of Jacques-Louis David's portrait of scientists Mr and Mrs Lavoisier. Painted just before the French Revolution, it had depicted the bourgeois couple as clever but chic, but was hurriedly overpainted to save them from the guillotine.

But should stories of the old, white and dead take precedence in the museum? And should it concern itself with anything more than the beauty of the exhibits? These issues are discussed by Head of Modern and Contemporary Art Sheena Wagstaff, who proactively promotes the work of African American and other unrepresented artists. She's just added Rashid Johnson's Five Broken Men to the collection.

The issue, says Mary Rockefeller, whose family have long been Met donors, is respect. Her father Nelson was so obsessed with what was once called 'Primitive Art' that he gave the Met his personal collection and then built a vast wing to house it. Named for Mary's twin David, who disappeared in Papua New Guinea, the collection of arts of Africa, Oceania and the Americas is the setting for the existential question facing all museums: shouldn't the exhibits be given back?

Puerto Rican artist Miguel Luciano has taken the discussion a step forward by 3D modelling a 1,000-year-old wooden devotional statue from the Rockefeller collection. He's not for taking it back, but for re-contextualising an object designed to be handled. We are with him as he unveils it to veteran social photographer Hiram Maristany. Luciano is working on a Met programme that aims to use artefacts to build links with communities who might feel that the museum, and its collections, have little to say to them.

At the end of their visit, the Samuel family find that the season's stand-out exhibition, The American Struggle, speaks volumes to them. Thirty panels by Jacob Lawrence, leading African American painter of the postwar period, celebrate the contribution of black citizens to the birth of the nation. Tracy-Ann sees the Met has a long way to go, but the journey to greater diversity, fairer representation and visibility has begun.

MON 22:00 imagine... (m0006wh6)

Faith Ringgold: Tell It Like It Is

Harlem-born artist, author and activist Faith Ringgold painted some of the most truthful and empowering representations of African Americans during the civil rights and women's movements of the 1960s and 1970s.

At the time, the art establishment dismissed her seminal American People series as political art by a woman, and a black woman at that. Undeterred, Ringgold continued to tell her story using numerous art forms, including traditional quilts which have their roots in the slave culture of the South. Ringgold reinterpreted their function to tell politically charged stories, something she has also done with her illustrated children's

Now in her late 80s, Ringgold is considered one of the most important African American artists, whose work is increasingly relevant today. imagine... spends time with this impassioned feminist, civil rights activist and champion of imagination, following her in her New Jersey studio and in the heart of Harlem as she prepares for her London show at the Serpentine Gallery.

MON 23:10 Art of America (b017j25v)

Modern Dreams

In the second part of his fascinating journey exploring American art, Andrew Graham-Dixon gets under the skin of the modern American metropolis. Starting his journey at the foot of the Statue of Liberty, which he describes as a pioneering early skyscraper, Andrew discovers how the ambitions of visionary artists and architects helped America remove itself from the shadow of Europe and become the most advanced civilisation on earth.

Andrew travels to downtown Manhattan to explore the grimy world of early 20th-century painters John Sloan and George Bellows, and visits Stockbridge in Massachusetts to find out how the world of Norman Rockwell is not as sentimental as it first seems. In Chicago, he explores the visionary mind of architect Louis Sullivan and travels to the decaying outskirts of the city to see the underside of the American dream

He uncovers the impact the Great Depression had on artists such as Edward Hopper and Arshile Gorky, and finds out how this struggle inspired America's first internationally acclaimed art movement - Abstract Expressionism. He pays a pilgrimage to Jackson Pollock's perfectly preserved studio in Long Island to discover the secrets of his unique drip technique, before flying across America to take in one of modern art's most moving experiences, Mark Rothko's chapel in Houston, Texas.

MON 00:10 Mark Gatiss on John Minton: The Lost Man of British Art (b0bfnlj2)

John Minton was for a time one of the most popular 20thcentury British artists, more famous than his contemporaries Francis Bacon and Lucian Freud. He has also been something of an obsession for actor and writer Mark Gatiss since he first saw one of his paintings as a teenager at the National Portrait Gallery. Mark Gatiss plunges back into Minton's world to celebrate his remarkable life and work, but also to find out why he remains all but forgotten.

As well as being a central figure in the postwar British neoromantic movement, alongside the likes of Graham Sutherland and John Piper, John Minton was also one of the leading lights of Soho during the 1940s and 50s - a bohemian enclave where he felt at ease with fellow artists and models. In the only known footage of Minton, he is caught fleetingly, dancing wildly in a club, like a crazed marionette. It is a captivating, poignant glimpse of a man who was once at the very centre of this world.

He was a prolific painter of both landscapes and portraits, and as a gay man, Mark has always been particularly drawn to his sensitive depictions of striking young men. Minton too was gay but struggled with his sexuality during a highly repressive era when homosexuality was still illegal. However, as Mark discovers, it wasn't just his sexuality that plagued Minton, but his very standing as an artist and his desire to be considered first and foremost a painter rather than an illustrator, which is how he really found fame. On a balcony overlooking the same glorious view, Mark explains how Minton's vibrant jacket design for Elizabeth David's A Book of Mediterranean Food in 1950 was really what attracted people to buy it, as the author herself declared. But it was the 1948 publication of Time Was Away: A Notebook in Corsica that really established Minton, and it became something of a cult book for a new generation of illustrators. Following in his footsteps, Mark travels to Corsica and visits some of the original locations captured so vividly by

As well as discovering unseen photographs of the artist and previously unknown works by him, the film also gives Mark the chance to hear Minton's voice for the first time in a rare broadcast he made for the BBC Third Programme in 1947. The connections deepen further as Mark meets some of those who knew him well - former models such as actor Norman Bowler recall posing for Minton, and fellow artist David Tindle discusses the rivalries between Minton and his contemporaries particularly Francis Bacon.

Drawing on all these remarkable first-hand reminiscences Mark explores the reasons behind Minton's fall from grace and

Page 3 of 4

BBC 4 Listings for 18 – 24 September 2021

the tragic circumstances of his death at the age of just 39.

MON 01:10 Great British Railway Journeys (b09m8hnk) [Repeat of broadcast at 19:00 today]

MON 01:40 Inside America's Treasure House: The Met

[Repeat of broadcast at 21:00 today]

MON 02:40 Secrets of the Museum (m000fjg5) [Repeat of broadcast at 20:00 today]

TUESDAY 21 SEPTEMBER 2021

$\it TUE$ 19:00 Great British Railway Journeys (b09m8hw3) Series 9

Taunton to Newton Abbot

With purple, green and yellow ribbons flying, and sporting ankle bells, Michael Portillo is led a merry dance in Stogumber - all in the name of fertility. He visits a celebrated Edwardian garden at Hestercombe to discover the fruits of an unusual partnership and learns how to deadhead the roses. There is a trip aboard the longest heritage line in England and the chance to ring in the new era at Exeter Cathedral before dining out in style on King Edward VII's coronation gala dinner at Bovey Castle.

TUE 19:30 The Joy of Painting (m000zwq2) Series 4

Snowy Morn

Join Bob Ross at an old log cabin nestled deep in the powdery woods. An intriguing yet simple painting just beckoning you to paint it yourself.

TUE 20:00 The Good Life (p00bzcm5)

Series 2

Going to Pot

Sitcom about a couple trying to live self-sufficiently in Surbiton. Tom and Barbara's evening class becomes unusually productive.

TUE~20:30~Porridge~(b00787kv)

Series 2

The Harder They Fall

Classic prison-set sitcom. Godber takes up boxing and enters the prison championships, but someone wants him to come a cropper.

TUE 21:00 Rik Mayall: Lord of Misrule (b04w7m97)

Comedian Rik Mayall died suddenly on 9 June 2014. Mayall's blend of rocket-fuelled physical comedy, surrealism, subversive satire and pompous punk wit left a body of work that spanned four decades. Mayall's characters include the Black Country's investigative nerd Kevin Turvey, Felicity Kendal-adoring student and 'People's Poet' Rik in The Young Ones, ruthless MP Alan B'Stard in The New Statesman, seedy loser Richie in Bottom, and larger-than-life characters Robin Hood and flying ace Lord Flashheart from Blackadder.

Narrated by Simon Callow, this programme salutes Rik Mayall and celebrates his part in the UK's comedy history using rare and unseen archive footage. It also features contributions from people who knew or admired him, including Michael Palin, Simon Pegg, Lenny Henry, Ben Elton, Alexei Sayle, Christopher Ryan, Tim McInnerny, Jools Holland, Ruby Wax and Greg Davies.

TUE **22:00 Bottom (b0077jq8)** Series 2

'e Out

Richie and Eddie decide to spend two weeks camping in the country, in an inadequate tent, with no food, no money and no chance of survival.

TUE 22:30 Arena (b0074qw2)

Remember the Secret Policeman's Ball?

A celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Secret

Policeman's Ball in aid of Amnesty International. Many of Britain's finest comedians, including John Cleese, Sir Bob Geldof, Alan Bennett, Jennifer Saunders, Stephen Fry, Terry Jones, Terry Gilliam, Ruby Wax, Lenny Henry, Sting, Phil Collins and Rowan Atkinson are reunited in a reflection of a period of great change in British comedy.

The film examines the event, with interviews and recollections of the original stars alongside classic comedy moments.

TUE 23:45 Some People with Jokes (b037nhbc) Series 1

Some Scousers with Jokes - Part 1

The people of Liverpool tell their favourite jokes. The city has a tradition of comedy and joke telling, but does that mean the man and woman on the street can make everyone else chuckle with their wisecracks? Good news - yes it does!

TUE 00:15 Motherland (p05j1k3t)

Series 1

Episode 1

Julia moves out of her comfort zone when she reluctantly invites the entire class to her daughter's birthday party. With her mum still refusing to help out she relies on Liz's party hacks and Kevin's entertaining skills. She organises events for a living anyway, so this will be a breeze.

TUE **00:45** Great British Railway Journeys (b09m8hw3) [Repeat of broadcast at 19:00 today]

TUE **01:15 Rik Mayall: Lord of Misrule (b04w7m97)** [Repeat of broadcast at 21:00 today]

TUE 02:10 Inside America's Treasure House: The Met (m000zwpm)

[Repeat of broadcast at 21:00 on Monday]

WEDNESDAY 22 SEPTEMBER 2021

WED 19:00 Great British Railway Journeys (b09m8kc2) Series 9

Plymouth to the Lizard

Steered by his early 20th-century Bradshaw's railway guide, Michael Portillo boldly goes to the moon by way of the Cornish Riviera Express! On the trail of an historic achievement made at the dawn of the Edwardian era, he investigates the first radio signal to be sent across the Atlantic.

In Plymouth, Michael uncovers what happened to surviving crew members of the most famous ocean liner in history, the Titanic. And at Fowey, he rediscovers a lost literary figure known as Q, who immortalised the town in his novels.

WED 19:30 The Joy of Painting (m000zwqp)

Series 4

Splashes of Autumn

Bob Ross creates a beautiful golden, warm waterfall scene, employing a lovely, almost watercolour-looking effect. Come and join in the fun!

WED 20:00 Wild Brazil (p01nplky)

Facing the Flood

This intimate journey to the heart of a Brazil continues, following the animal families as they face the formidable monsoon rains.

The giant otter babies must watch out for predatory jaguars and learn to swim before their river floods. The coatis must eat all they can before their world disappears underwater, and the youngest capuchin monkey has to learn some clever survival skills fast.

WED 21:00 Neutrino: Hunting the Ghost Particle (m000zwqr)

This is an astonishing tale of perseverance and ingenuity that reveals how scientists have battled against the odds for almost a century to detect and decode the neutrino, the smallest and strangest particle of matter in the universe.

Inside the world-renowned physics laboratory Fermilab, a team

of scientists are constructing an audacious experiment to hunt for a mysterious new 'ghost' neutrino. If they find it, this could transform our understanding of the nature and fabric of our universe. The problem is, these tiny particles are almost impossible to detect.

Elsewhere, physicists conduct experiments in some of the most extreme environments on the planet: from deep mine shafts in South Dakota to vast ice fields at the South Pole. In these unlikely places supersized neutrino detectors hope to unlock the universe's deepest secrets. Could neutrinos overturn the most precise theory of particle physics that humans have ever written down? Could they even be a link to a hidden realm of new particles that permeate the cosmos – so called dark matter? Scientists at Fermilab are edging towards the truth.

WED 22:00 The Beginning and End of the Universe (b0754t74)

The Beginning

Professor Jim Al-Khalili takes us back in time to tackle the greatest question in science: how did the universe begin? Uncovering the origins of the universe is regarded as humankind's greatest intellectual achievement. By recreating key experiments Jim unravels the cosmic mystery of science's creation story before witnessing a moment, one millionth of a second, after the universe sprang into existence.

$\it WED~23:00$ The Beginning and End of the Universe (b075dxsq)

The End

Professor Jim Al-Khalili carries us into the distant future to try to discover how the universe will end - with a bang or a whimper? He reveals a universe far stranger than anyone imagined and, at the frontier of our understanding, encounters a mysterious and enigmatic force that promises to change physics forever.

$\it WED~00:00~The~Sky~at~Night~(m000zwp0)$

[Repeat of broadcast at 22:00 on Sunday]

WED 01:00 Great British Railway Journeys (b09m8kc2) [Repeat of broadcast at 19:00 today]

WED 01:30 Wild Brazil (p01nplky)

[Repeat of broadcast at 20:00 today]

WED 02:30 Neutrino: Hunting the Ghost Particle

(m000zwqr) [Repeat of broadcast at 21:00 today]

THURSDAY 23 SEPTEMBER 2021

THU 19:00 Great British Railway Journeys (b09p33qy) Series 9

Hull to Malton

Michael Portillo embarks on a journey through Britain steered by his Edwardian railway handbook. He begins in the East Yorkshire port of Hull, where he heads for the docks through which millions of migrants passed at the turn of the 20th century and which are today getting a second wind.

At Cottingham, Michael picks up the trail of the future King Edward VII, when he was Prince of Wales. Bertie, as he was known in the family, became embroiled in scandal after a highstakes game of cards in the grand house of Tranby Croft.

Next stop is the beautiful seaside town of Scarborough, which Michael discovers was reeling in 1914 from bombardment by German warships and still carries the scars. Rose gardens, follies and Baroque architecture belonging to a radical countess entice Michael to the market town of Malton, where he finds Howards still inhabit their castle.

THU **19:30 The Joy of Painting (m000zws8)** Series 4

Oriental Falls

Bob Ross paints an amazing secluded waterfall masterpiece that looks as if it could almost be a watercolour, complete with interesting tree and rock formations.

$\it THU$ 20:00 Flying Scotsman: Sounds from the Footplate (b087k5rf)

Another chance to enjoy the view from the driving seat of the

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BBC 4 Listings for 18 – 24 September 2021

world's most famous steam locomotive as Flying Scotsman travels the length of the Severn Valley Railway.

Special 'cab cameras' and microphones capture all the action from the footplate - this time without commentary. Viewers can appreciate the evocative sound of steam transportation as this magnificent engine attracts crowds from far and wide.

Veteran driver Roger Norfolk and fireman Ryan Green guide Scotsman on the leisurely journey through the countryside of the English midlands, from Bridgnorth in Shropshire to Kidderminster in Worcestershire. Hundreds of enthusiasts also watch and wave from platforms, bridges and surrounding fields.

THU 21:00 The Graduate (m000zpby)

Benjamin Braddock is a shy, aimless college graduate. His wellto-do parents and their friends welcome him home with great fanfare but he feels listless, lacks ambition and can't share their enthusisasm. When his parents' friend Mrs Robinson takes an interest in him it kickstarts an unusual summer.

THU 22:45 Inside America's Treasure House: The Met (m000zwpm)

[Repeat of broadcast at 21:00 on Monday]

THU 23:45 Motherland (p05j36kl) Series 1

Episode 2

A school fundraiser is not Julia's idea of an evening out but somehow she finds herself heavily involved in order to impress a former colleague and new mum crush. Kevin has a battle with the cloakroom and despite Anne's protests, Liz takes care of the box

THU **00:15 Motherland (p05j376v)** Series 1

series i

Episode 3

A pool party ruins Julia's plans before an important event at work. When an attractive man leaves his wallet in the newsagents, Liz takes it in the hopes of returning it and securing a date. And a new dad on the scene who has a history with Amanda puts Kevin's nose out of joint.

THU 00:45 Motherland (p05j39b9)

Series 1

Episode 4

While Paul is away, he has the perfect solution to aid Julia: he sends his parents to help. Luckily, Kevin has a huge fondness for the elderly and assists Julia in her in-laws' wrangling. Meanwhile, Amanda has a clear-out and reluctantly gives Liz her old coat, which seems to have an effect on our Liz.

THU 01:10 Motherland (p05j39xn)

Series 1

Episode 5

Anne's new car propels her into the limelight as the mums try to get in on her new car pool. Kevin finds himself in the new role of confidant as Amanda shares a deep secret. And Liz and Julia's friendship is under fire as Liz realises she is just a 'mum' friend

$\it THU~01:40~Motherland~(p05j3br1)$

Series 1

Episode 6

Julia's childcare problems are solved after she finds the perfect nanny, but her friendship with Liz is strained. Amanda is keeping a low profile after Kevin blurted out her secret. Liz visits Lee's new partner to give her some advice. The school caretaker is in hospital, but the mums have lost their ringleader, and there's nobody to organise a card.

THU 02:10 Motherland (p07mvqj6)

Series 2

No Mum Left Behind

As a new school year begins, a new mum at the school gates attracts the attention of Julia, Liz and Kevin. Amanda has all the gossip and tells them Meg is a high-flying businesswoman with five kids and a sexy silver-fox husband.

Meanwhile, Julia is struggling to keep her head above water at work when she is offered the choice of promotion or redundancy. When Meg invites the gang for drinks, they go along against Julia's better judgement and the evening takes a surprising turn, leading Julia to make a big decision.

THU 02:40 The Art of Japanese Life (p054mdmy) Series 1

Home

In the final episode, Dr James Fox explores the art of the Japanese home. The clean minimalism of the Japanese home has been exported around the world, from modernist architecture to lifestyle stores like Muji. But the origins of this ubiquitous aesthetic evolved from a system of spiritual and philosophical values, dating back centuries. James visits one of Japan's last surviving traditional wooden villages, and the 17th-century villa of Rinshunkaku, and reveals how the unique spirit of Japanese craftsmen (shokunin) turned joinery into an artform - creating houses without the need for nails, screws or even glue.

Exploring some of the traditional arts of the Japanese home (where even food and flower arranging have been elevated to the level of art), James also investigates attitudes to domestic culture in modern Japan, meeting photographer Kyoichi Tsuzuki, chronicler of Japan's crowded cities and tiny apartments.

Other highlights include a performance by calligrapher and artist Tomoko Kawao and a visit to the hometown of Terunobu Fujimori, one of the most singular and playful contemporary architects working in Japan today.

FRIDAY 24 SEPTEMBER 2021

FRI 19:00 Duets at the BBC (b01c2xwt)

The BBC delves into its archive for the best romantic duets performed at the BBC over the last 50 years. Whether it is Robbie and Kylie dancing together on Top of the Pops or Kris Kristofferson and Rita Coolidge singing into each other's eyes on the Whistle Test, there is plenty of chemistry. Highlights include Nina and Frederik's Baby It's Cold Outside, Dolly Parton and Kenny Rogers, Sonny and Cher, Shirley Bassey and Neil Diamond, Peaches and Herb, and a rare performance from Peter Gabriel and Kate Bush.

FRI 20:00 Top of the Pops (m000zwqz)

Bruno Brookes presents the pop chart programme, first broadcast on 22 August 1991 and featuring Midge Ure, Jason Donovan and Oceanic.

FRI 20:30 Top of the Pops (m000zwr1)

Mark Goodier presents the pop chart programme, first broadcast on 29 August 1991 and featuring EMF, The Farm and Tin Machine

FRI 21:00 Queens of Soul (b05nhjsx)

The sisters are truly doing it for themselves in this celebration of the legendary female singers whose raw emotional vocal styles touched the hearts of followers worldwide. Featuring the effortless sounds of Aretha Franklin, Roberta Flack, Gladys Knight, Randy Crawford, Angie Stone, Mary J Blige and Beyonce, to name a few.

The Queens of Soul presents the critically acclaimed and influential female singers who, decade by decade, changed the world one note at a time.

FRI 22:00 Soul & Beyond with Corinne Bailey Rae and Trevor Nelson (b0bqtf55)

DJ Trevor Nelson and singer-songwriter Corinne Bailey Rae present their ultimate soundtrack in an hour of classic and contemporary soul and R&B gems. As they watch their selection, they reveal the reasons behind their choices. From childhood favourites such as The Jackson 5 and Gladys Knight to inspirational tracks from Prince, Mary J Blige, Stevie Wonder and Marvin Gaye, this is a playlist to satisfy any soul fan.

FRI 23:00 The Old Grey Whistle Test (m000zwr3)

Blondie in Concert

Blondie perform live at the height of their powers in 1979 at the Apollo Theatre in Glasgow, with Debbie Harry wowing the audience with such hits as Dreaming, Union City Blue, Atomic, Picture This, Heart of Glass, Hanging on the Telephone and Sunday Girl.

FRI 23:30 Sounds of the 70s 2 (b01jk1b8)

Soul: Keep On Keeping On

Imported American soul was big news in the UK in the 1970s. Before the Brits developed their own brand of soul, American performers were here demonstrating how it was done and being appreciated by all and sundry. The series continues with classic performances from the kings and queens of soul, including Aretha Franklin, Billy Preston, The Tams, Curtis Mayfield, Bill Withers, The Stylistics, Gil Scott-Heron and The Jacksons.

FRI 00:00 From Elton John to Gary Barlow: Celebrating 100 Concerts Live at Eden (m000c5y0)

A celebration of the Eden Sessions that looks back at the first 18 years of concerts at the Eden Project in Cornwall, which began in 2001. One hundred live concerts, from Elton John to Gary Barlow, set against the stunning backdrop of the Eden biometer.

Introduced by Nile Rodgers, who headlined the 100th show on 23 June 2019, the programme features performances by a wide variety of artists. They include Pulp, who headlined the first ever Eden Session in July 2002, Duran Duran, Bastille, Muse, Gary Barlow, Van Morrison, Madness, Primal Scream and Lionel Richie.

FRI 01:00 Duets at the BBC (b01c2xwt)

[Repeat of broadcast at 19:00 today]

FRI 02:00 Top of the Pops (m000zwqz) [Repeat of broadcast at 20:00 today]

FRI 02:30 Top of the Pops (m000zwr1) [Repeat of broadcast at 20:30 today]

FRI 03:00 Queens of Soul (b05nhjsx)

[Repeat of broadcast at 21:00 today]